



A Lenten Grow-Pray-Study Guide

John 4

Review

Take the mutual dislike between Jews and Samaritans we heard about, mix well, and let harden for 700 years—and you have the situation Jesus found. Jesus met a Samaritan woman who came to Jacob's Well at noon alone—circumstances that suggested she was a social outcast. His offer of “living water” intrigued her. Jesus, refusing to get sidetracked into a theological argument, described her messy life situation honestly. When she acknowledged the reality of what he said, she found God's grace and a new life through him.

Examine

What does it mean that “Jesus needed to go through Samaria?” (4)
Compare once again Jesus' thirst in John 4 and Jesus' final words.

Reflect

What difference would be made if Jesus were waiting for you when you arrived at work? How could you cultivate His presence?

Chat

In Jesus' day, the phrase “living water” meant spring or river water, always moving, never stale or fouled. The Message captures the idea well, in verse 13, “The water I give will be an artesian spring within, gushing fountains of endless life.” When did you most recently sense a surge of God's endless life within your heart? How can you regularly “fill your cup” with Jesus' living water?

Apply

How can your painful experiences/failures strengthen your witness?

Pray

Thank God for His grace, forgiveness -- that His life was “poured” out for us so that we might have life.